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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/876,320	06/07/2001	Mika Gomi	30821US2 8629		
116	7590 03/26/2003		•	. . 	
PEARNE & GORDON LLP			EXAMINER		
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CLEVELAND	O, OH 44114-1484	•	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
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		·	DATE-MAILED: 03/26/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary Examiner Ant Unit Toan Ton 2871 - The MAILING DATE of this communication app ars on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time type available under the proisions of 3 TORR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled If the period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 3X (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply whelin the set or extended period for reply with in the thirty (30) days. Will be considered timely. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 3X (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply whelin the set or extended period for reply by the Diffice later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely (10) days will be considered timely. Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
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-Application/Control Number: 09/876,320

Art Unit: 2871

Election/Restrictions

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

- (I) the specifics of the device being comprised of: the LC driver mounted on the reverse side of the first plate and the light shielding material on the displaying side of the first plate (claim 14);
- (III) the specifics of the device being comprised of: the LC driver mounted on the film carrier and under the second plate, and the light shielding material affixed on a surface of the liquid crystal driver facing the second plate (claims 16-18).
- 2. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 12, 19-23 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

- Application/Control Number: 09/876,320

Art Unit: 2871

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1-141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

-Application/Control Number: 09/876,320

Art Unit: 2871

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan Ton whose telephone number is (703) 305-3489. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0956.

March 20, 2003

TOANTON

PRIM!